



## Species Composition and Distribution of Tropical Marine Macroalgae In The Pari Island Reef Cluster, Jakarta

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### ABSTRACT

The objective of this study was to analyze the species composition and distribution of marine macroalgae at Pari Island reef cluster-Seribu Islands reef system Jakarta based on specimen information available in Reference Collection of Research Center for Oceanography (RCO-LIPI). The Macroalgae specimens were collected irregularly by researchers during marine expedition projects from 1973 until 2014. Taxonomic identification of specimens was conducted in 2014, validation of species names was updated in May 2020 through [www.macroalgabase.org](http://www.macroalgabase.org). The floristic composition value of macroalgae was analyzed using the C/P, R/P, and (R+C)/P ratio. Bray-Curtis similarity index analyzes were performed to visualize differences in macroalgae species from the different islands. We recorded a total of 41 species from 25 genus and 18 families. Rhodophyta represented the most significant number of taxa with 20 species (49%), followed by Chlorophyta with 11 species (27%) and Phaeophyta with ten species (24%). In this study, we found that *Sargassum polycystum*, *Gracilaria salicornia*, *Amphiroa fragilisima*, and *Halimeda opuntia* are dominant species in the study area. The highest macroalgae diversity found in Kongsu Island with 33 species, while the lower diversity found in Pari Island with five species. Bray-Curtis Similarity index showed that Kongsu Island and Burung Island have the highest similarity value with 29,26%, while Tikus Island and Pari Island have the lowest similarity value with 11,76%. The macroalgae distribution in the Pari island reef cluster influenced by the difference of substrate profile and environmental pressure derived from human activities. Proper management of macroalgae resources is necessary to preserve the sustainability of the macroalgae ecosystem.

**Keywords:** macroalgae, composition, distribution, Pari Island

### ABSTRAK

Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisa komposisi spesies dan distribusi makroalga laut di Gugusan Pulau Pari-Kepulauan Seribu, Jakarta berdasarkan informasi spesimen yang tersedia di fasilitas Koleksi Referensi Pusat Penelitian Oseanografi (RCO-LIPI). Spesimen makroalga dikumpulkan secara tidak teratur oleh para peneliti selama proyek ekspedisi laut dari tahun 1973 sampai tahun 2014. Identifikasi taksonomi spesimen dilakukan pada tahun 2014, sedangkan validasi dan pembaharuan nama spesies dilakukan pada Bulan Mei 2020 menggunakan informasi yang tersedia pada situs [www.macroalgabase.org](http://www.macroalgabase.org). Nilai komposisi floristik dari makroalga dianalisis dengan menggunakan rasio C/P, R/P, dan (R+C)/P. Analisis Indeks kesamaan Bray-Curtis dilakukan untuk memvisualisasikan perbedaan dalam spesies alga dari pulau yang berbeda. Kami berhasil mencatat total 41 spesies makroalga yang terbagi atas 25 genus dan 18 famili. Rhodophyta mewakili jumlah taksa paling banyak dengan 20 spesies (49%), diikuti oleh Chlorophyta dengan 11 spesies (27%) dan Phaeophyta dengan 10 spesies (24%). Dalam studi ini, *Sargassum polycystum*, *Gracilaria salicornia*, *Amphiroa fragilisima*, dan *Halimeda Opuntia* merupakan spesies dominan di wilayah kajian. Jumlah spesies alga tertinggi ditemukan di Pulau kongsu yaitu 33 spesies, sementara jumlah spesies terendah ditemukan di Pulau Pari yaitu 5 spesies. Indeks Similaritas Bray-Curtis menunjukkan bahwa Pulau Kongsu dan Pulau Burung memiliki nilai kesamaan spesies tertinggi mencapai 29,26%, sedangkan Pulau Tikus dan Pulau Pari memiliki nilai kesamaan spesies terendah yaitu sebesar 11,76%. Distribusi makroalga di Gugusan Pulau Pari terlihat dipengaruhi oleh perbedaan profil

substrat dan tekanan lingkungan yang berasal dari aktivitas manusia. Pengelolaan ekosistem pesisir yang tepat diperlukan untuk menjaga kelestarian sumberdaya makroalga.

**Kata Kunci:** makroalga, komposisi, distribusi, Pulau Pari,

## 1. Introduction

The Indonesian coastal zone is rich in tropical marine ecosystems such as estuarial, salt marshes, seagrass meadows, mangroves, coral reefs, and small island ecosystems which are homes of different varieties of living communities. The different characteristics of the Indonesian marine environment provide various types of marine habitats for benthic marine organism communities (Hutomo and Moosa, 2005). One of the benthic marine organism mainly found in Indonesian waters is macroalgae, commonly called the seaweeds. Macroalgae are one of the important primary producers of the sea (Sudhakar et al., 2018). The organism contains chlorophyll for photosynthesis process and few pigments (Simatupang et al., 2018).

Basically, marine macroalgae are available in the diverse group with a common structure, only difference they do not have actual leaves, stems, and roots (Sudhakar et al., 2018). They are simplistically categorized into green macroalgae (Chlorophyta), brown macroalgae (Phaeophyta or Ochrophyta) and red macroalgae (Rhodophyta). Most macroalgae need a hard substrate to attach to and the dominant substrate inshore mainly consists of sand, silt and shifting rubble (Rachello-Dolmen and Cleary, 2007), sessile, and easy to observe because they need to be exposed to sunlight (Draisma et al., 2017). Macroalgae found attached to the bottom, in relatively shallow coastal waters areas up to 180 meter depth (Sahayaraj and Sathiyamoorthy, 2014).

Benthic marine macroalgae is widespread in almost all regions of Indonesia. Some regions such as the Seribu Islands reef complex are considered to have high macroalgae biodiversity. Therefore, research efforts in these regions are quite intensive. Seribu Islands reef system located in the northwest of Jakarta Bay, Indonesia. The reef system consists of 101 islands, which are divided into several island clusters that are close together. Investigation on biodiversity of macroalgae in the Seribu Islands was initiated by Atmadja in 1955 and some of its species findings have been described in the book "Pengenalan Jenis-jenis rumput laut di Indonesia" (Atmadja et al., 1996). In the next

years, the number of efforts to explore marine biodiversity in the Seribu Islands reef system were continued by researchers from the Research Center for Oceanography, Indonesian Institute of Sciences (RCO-LIPI), during marine expeditions and managed to collect a number of the marine organism including macroalgae which are currently stored in the Reference collection facility of RCO LIPI. Much scientific knowledge have been published regarding marine flora and fauna in Seribu Islands reef system. However, reports on macroalgae diversity in specific island clusters in the Seribu Islands are still lacking. Recently we have identified the amount of macroalgae specimens collected from the Pari Island reef cluster, part of the Seribu Islands. The main objectives of the study were to report and analyze the taxonomic inventory of macroalgae and its distribution in the Pari Island reef cluster based on specimens information provided by the Reference Collection facility in RCO-LIPI, Indonesia. This study provides valuable information on marine macroalgae biodiversity particularly in the western region of Indonesia.

## 2. Method

### 2.1. Study Area

The Pari Island reef cluster is a part of the Seribu Island reef system. The reef cluster consists of Pari Island, Kongsu Island, Tengah Island, Burung Island, and Tikus Island surrounded by atoll coral reefs (figure 1). The formation of the mainland of the islands in the Pari Island group is inseparable from the vertical growth of coral reefs, the accumulation of sediments due to the process of coral reef disintegration and coastal abrasion by waves, the influence of coastal shore currents and due to human intervention greatly influence the formation of the island landscape within Pari Island reef cluster. The condition of the waters in the area outside the atoll is a deep water area while the waters inside the atoll are relatively sloping areas, and in some places, there are lagoons (lagoon). Geographically, the Pari Island Group is located between 05 ° 50 'LS to 05 ° 53' LS and 106 ° 34 'BT to 106 ° 38' BT. This area is located in the Java Sea,

precisely north of DKI Jakarta and Tangerang. Administratively, the Pari Islands include Kelurahan Tidung Island, Seribu Islands District, Jakarta Province (Salim and Ahmad, 2013).

## 2.2. Data Sources

We used the macroalgae specimens that available in Reference Collection facility of Research Center for Oceanography (RCO – LIPI), Indonesia. Macroalgae specimens from four island of Pari Island reef cluster namely Pari Island, Burung Island, Kongsu Island, and Tikus Island were collected irregularly and randomly by several Researcher *during marine expedition projects*. The specimens were collected, preserved and placed at Macroalgae Reference Collection facility for further taxonomy identification work.

## 2.3. Data Analysis

A literature review, validation of specimen's information, and personal communication with previous researchers were carried out intensely. Species lists of macroalgae collected from the Pari Island reef cluster are reviewed for their taxonomic group, latest species naming, and morphological characteristics through [www.algaebase.org](http://www.algaebase.org). Because the specimens record that available in reference collection are taxonomic inventory within an island, and no have information regarding its abundance. Thus, the analysis of community structure and distribution in this study only includes species composition and

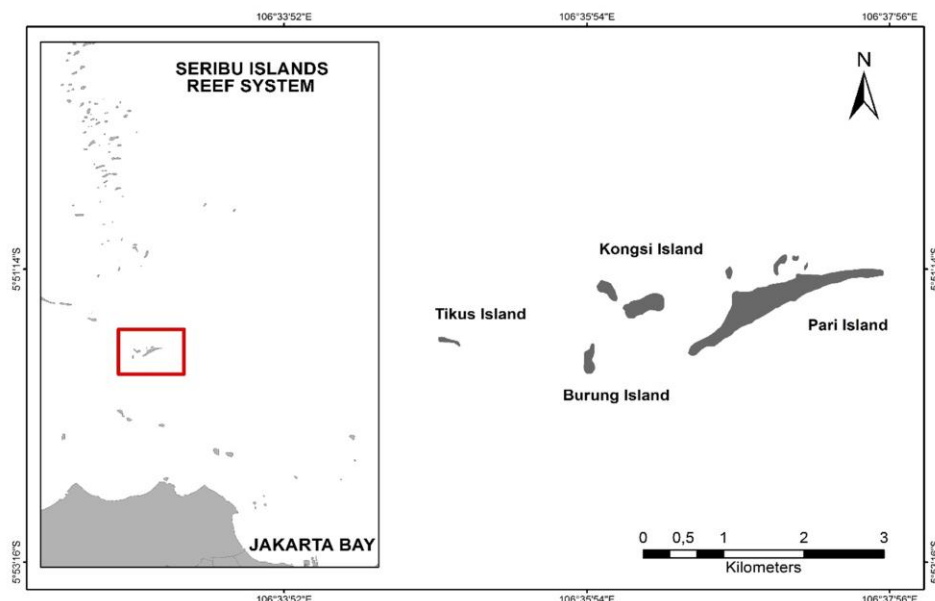
species similarity. We used the C/P ratios (Segawa, 1956) R/P ratios (Feldmann, 1937) and (R+C)/P ratios (Cheney, 1977) to analyze the flora characteristics of macroalgae and identify the changes in species composition according to geographic conditions. The macroalgae data were transformed into present-absence format for further analysis using Primer 6 software. Bray-Curtis Similarity Index similarity analyzes were performed to visualize differences in macroalgae species from the different Islands.

## 3. Results and Discussion

### 3.1. Species Composition

There are 41 species of macroalgae from the Pari Island reef cluster have been identified by taxonomist to the level of species originating from 25 genera and 18 families (Table 1). The lists of marine macroalgae species are shown in Table 2. In addition, there are 13 specimens were identified until the genera level and two variants of *Caulerpa racemosa* (var. *macrophyta* Kützinger and var. *peltata* Turner Bosse), which not considered for our further analysis. The composition of macroalgae species was classified into three divisio, namely red macroalgae (Rhodophyta), green macroalgae (Chlorophyta), and brown macroalgae (Phaeophyta). Rhodophyta is the most diverse divisio of macroalgae with a total of 20 species (49%) compared to Chlorophyta with 11 species (27%) and Phaeophyta with 10 species (24%).

Macroalgae have been classified by the



**Figure 1.** Study area map in Pari Island reef cluster

ratio of Chlorophyta and Rhodophyta species relative to Phaeophyta species. The C/P, R/P, and (R+C)/P ratios were 1.1, 2, and 3.10, respectively. Chlorophyta division were dominated by *Caulerpa* and *Halimeda*, while Rhodophyta division were dominated by *Hypnea*, *Euchema*, and *Laurensia*. In the case of Phaeophyta division, *Sargassum* was appeared as the dominant genus found in the sampling location.

In this study, it was found that *Sargassum polycystum*, *Amphiroa fragilissima*, and *Halimeda opuntia* were the dominant macroalgae species. The three species of macroalgae each represent the Phaeophyta, Rhodophyta and Chlorophyta divisions. A recent report by Srimariana et al. (2020) state that *Halimeda macroloba*, *Halimeda opuntia*, *Gracilaria salicornia*, *Laurencia sp.*, and *Padina minor* are the dominant macroalgae species found on Pari Island. Based on the results of our data analysis, there were seven species of macroalgae on Pari Island that were confirmed to be rediscovered in Srimariana's research in 2020, namely *Caulerpa racemosa*, *Caulerpa sertularioides*, *Halimeda macroloba*, *Halimeda opuntia*, *Ulva lactuca*, *Acanthophora spicifera*, and *Gracilaria salicornia*. The 34 macroalgae species found in the previous study were not found in the 2020 study. However, there were 11 new macroalgae species found in the study by Srimariana et al. (2020), so that this can complement information about the diversity of macroalgae in the Pari Island cluster.

The number of macroalgae species found in this study have not been fully described the macroalgae diversity in Pari Island reef cluster because it does not reflect the entire of macroalgae seasons. However, combination of the number of macroalgae species in this report with the findings of Srimariana et al. (2020) has represented around 51% of the total macroalgae in the Seribu Islands. Kadi (2004) and Hutomo and Moosa (2005) recorded a total of 101 taxa macroalgae from

the Seribu Islands. Significant number of macroalgae species in Seribu Islands and the Jakarta Bay was reported by Atmadja and Van Reine (2010; 2014) where they collected a total of 145 species of macroalgae, consisting of 58 species of green macroalgae (19 genus), 55 species of red macroalgae (35 genus), and 32 species of brown macroalgae (16 genus). Unfortunately, that report does not provide detailed information regarding specific sites and macroalgae sampling season in the Seribu Islands and Jakarta Bay. Current information regarding the number of algal taxa in the Seribu Islands and Jakarta Bay also reported by Draisma et al. (2017) with 67 macroalgae taxa recorded from 27 islands in the Seribu Islands. The emergence of species and change of macroalgae composition could be related to the environmental factors dynamics (Sukiman et al., 2014) or unexplained investigation variance such as season (Bruckner and Dempsey, 2015; Shoubaky and Kaiser, 2014), depth of sampling (Kang et al., 2011) and competition (Kerswell, 2006). In general, the number of species and composition of all taxa differ significantly between periods and researchers.

### 3.2. Macroalgae Distribution

Species distribution varies greatly among the Islands, which may be caused by different substrate profiles and human disturbance. The highest macroalgae diversity were recorded in Kongsu Island with 33 species, followed by Tikus Island with 12 species, Burung Island has eight species, and Pari Island with five species. Pari Island has the smallest number of species compared to the other three islands. However, in terms of area dimension, Pari Island is the largest island in the Pari Island reef cluster that is an island with a large population compared to Kongsu Island, Burung Island and Tikus Island which are islands without inhabitants. The distribution of macroalgae species in the Pari Island reef cluster is given in Figure 2.

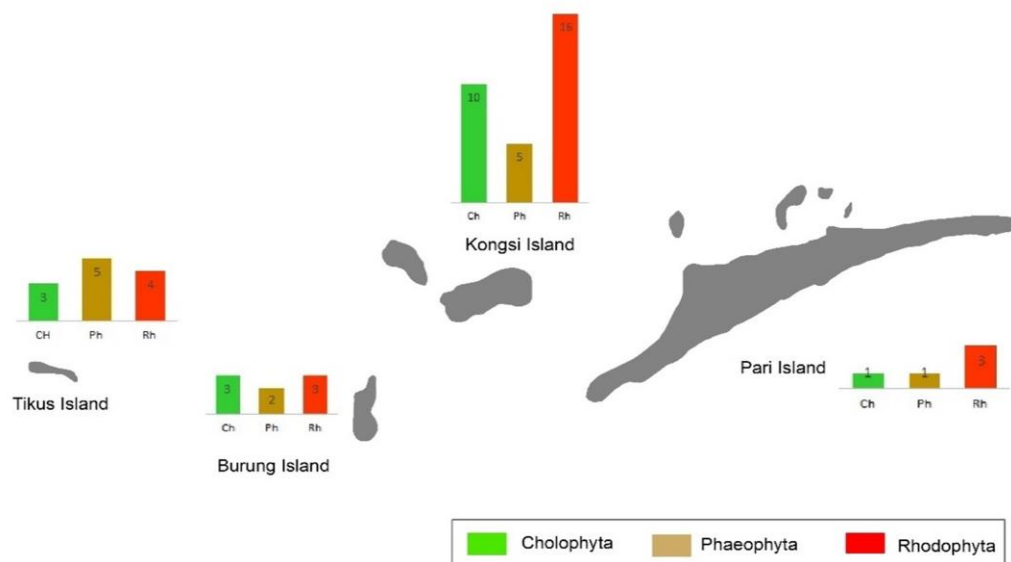
**Table 1.** Number of marine macroalgae taxa found in Pari Island reef cluster

Macroalgae Taxonomy	Number of Taxa			Total
	Chlorophyta	Phaeophyta	Rhodophyta	
Family	7	3	8	18
Genus	7	7	11	25
Species	11	10	20	41

**Table 2.** Species list of marine macroalgae compared to Srimaryana et al. (2020)

Division and Species	Island				Srimaryana et al. (2020)
	Kongsi	Burung	Pari	Tikus	
<b>Chlorophyta</b>					
<i>Boodlea composita</i>	+	+	-	-	-
<i>Caulerpa racemosa</i>	+	+	-	-	+
<i>Caulerpa racemosa</i> v. <i>macrophysa</i> (Kützing) Taylor	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Caulerpa racemosa</i> var. <i>peltata</i> (Turner) Bosse	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Caulerpa sertularioides</i> (Vahl) C. Agardh	+	-	-	-	+
<i>Codium adhaerens</i>	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Halimeda macroloba</i> Decaisne	+	-	-	+	+
<i>Halimeda micronesico</i>	+	-	-	+	-
<i>Halimeda opuntia</i> (Linnaeus) Lamouroux	+	+	-	+	+
<i>Tydemania expeditionis</i> Weber Van Bosse	-	-	+	-	-
<i>Ulva lactuca</i> Linnaeus	+	-	-	-	+
<i>Valonia macrophysa</i>	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Valonia utricularis</i>	+	-	-	-	-
<b>Phaeophyta</b>					
<i>Colpomenia sinuosa</i> (Roth) Derbes et Solier	-	-	+	-	-
<i>Dictyota dichotoma</i> (Hudson) Lamouroux	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Hormophysa triquetra</i> (C. Agardh) Kutzing	+	+	-	-	-
<i>Hydroclathrus clathratus</i> (C. Agardh) Howe	-	-	-	+	-
<i>Padina australis</i> Hauck	-	-	-	+	-
<i>Sargassum aquifolium</i>	-	-	-	+	-
<i>Sargassum longifolium</i> Agardh	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Sargassum polycystum</i> C.A. Agardh	+	+	-	+	-
<i>Turbinaria decurrens</i> Bory	-	-	-	+	-
<i>Turbinaria murrayana</i>	+	-	-	-	-
<b>Rhodophyta</b>					
<i>Acanthophora dendroides</i>	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Acanthophora spicifera</i> (Vahl) Boergesen	+	-	+	-	+
<i>Amphiroa fragilisima</i> (Linnaeus) Lamouroux	+	-	+	+	-
<i>Chondria dasyphylla</i> (Wood Ward) C. Agardh	-	-	-	+	-
<i>Chondrococcus hornemannii</i> (Martens) Smitz	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Eucheuma spinosum</i> (L) J. Agardh	+	-	+	-	-
<i>Eucheuma edule</i> Kützing	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Eucheuma muricatum</i>	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Gelidiella acerosa</i> (Forsskål) Feldmann	+	-	-	+	-
<i>Gracilaria edulis</i> (Gmelin) Silva	-	+	-	-	-
<i>Gracilaria salicornia</i> (C. Agardh) Dawson	+	-	-	-	+
<i>Halymenia durvillaei</i> Bory	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Hypnea cervicornis</i> J. Agardh	-	+	-	-	-
<i>Hypnea cynomiceae</i>	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Hypnea musciformis</i>	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Hypnea nidulans</i> Setchell	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Laurencia intricata</i>	+	+	-	-	-
<i>Laurencia nidifica</i> Agardh	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Laurencia obtusa</i> (Hudson) Lamouroux	-	-	-	+	-
<i>Polysiphonia flexicaulis</i> (Harvey) Coll.	+	-	-	-	-
Number of species	33	8	5	12	

+ : Presence of species    - : Absence of species



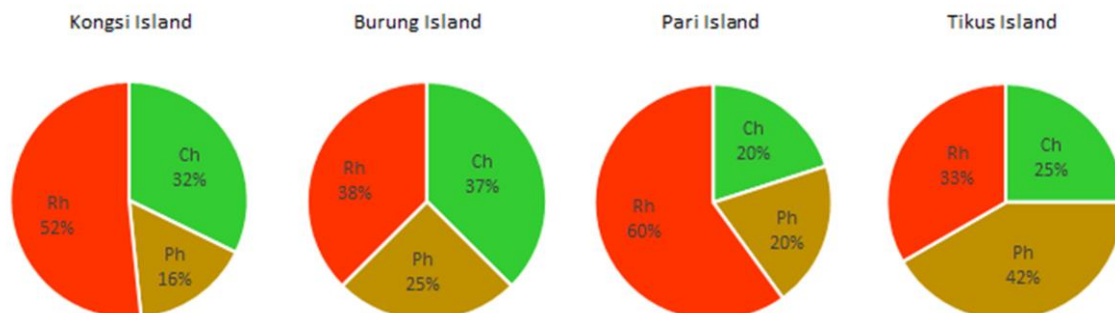
**Figure 2.** Distribution of marine macroalgae species in Pari Island reef cluster

The dominance of the Rhodophyta (Rh) division in three islands, namely in Pari Island (60%), then on Kongs Island (52%) and the lowest on Burung island (37.5%). The highest dominance of divisio Phaeophyta (Ph) was in Tikus Island (42%), then Burung Island (25%), Pari Island (20%), and the lowest was Kongs Island (16%). The divisio Cholophyta (Ch) is relatively scattered in all research locations, namely the highest is Burung Island (37.5%), then Kongs Island (32%), Tikus Island (25%) and the lowest is Pari Island (20%). The dominance of the macroalgae divisions are given in Figure 3.

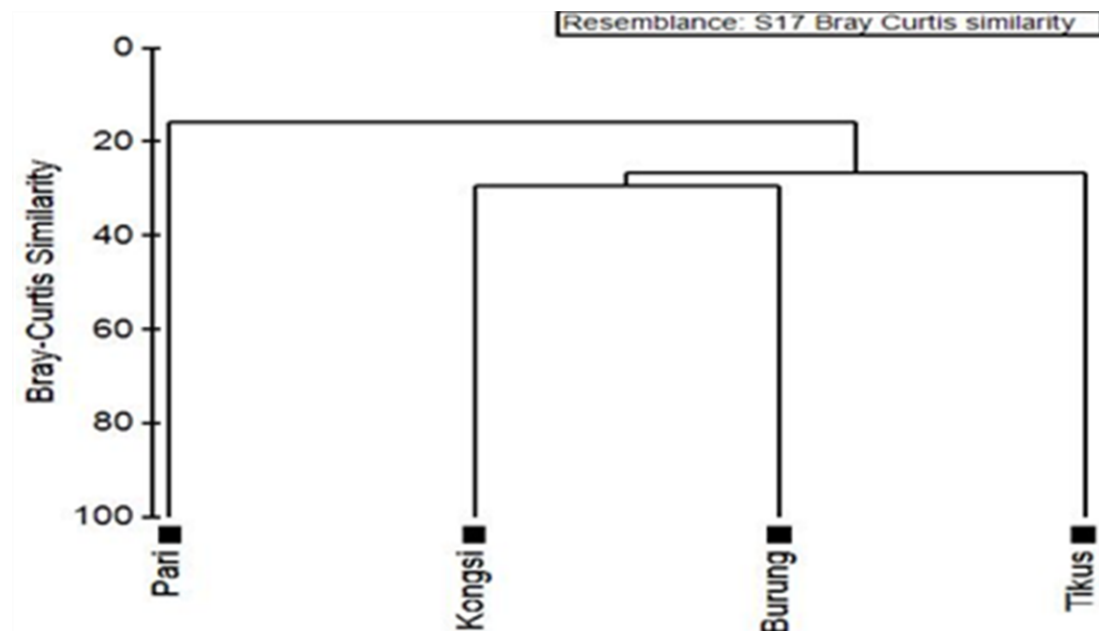
The relationship patterns of macroalgae species from the four islands studied were analyzed using Bray-Curtis similarity Index as shown in Table 3. Our analysis shows that the macroalgae species on Kongs Island and Burung Island have highest similarity value is 29%. While the macroalgae on Pari Island and Tikus Island have the lowest species similarity

is 11.7%. According to Wulandari et al. (2014), a similarity value close to 100% has a high level of similarity, and a value close to 0 means a lower level of similarity. Gerung et al. (2006) stated that the similarity of macroalgae species influenced by several factors, such as differences in the substrate as macroalgae habitat in the study site.

Figure 4 shows a cluster analysis of the dendrogram based on macroalgae species compositions. The dendrogram is divide into two groups corresponding to the island characteristics. Group one only consists of Pari Island, while group two divided into three subgroups. Pari Island was characterized by its distinctive environmental conditions by the presence of human disturbance. Group two, consists of Kongs Island, Burung Island, and Tikus Island, which were characterized by similarities in terms of environmental conditions such as substrates composition and relatively low environmental pressures.



**Figure 3.** The dominance of the macroalgae divisions in the Pari Island reef cluster



**Figure 4.** Dendrogram of marine macroalgae species compositions di Pari Island reef cluster.

The distance between Kongs Island and Burung Island are close to one another. Therefore the environmental characteristics of the two islands are almost similar. There are six same species of macroalgae found on both islands, namely: *Boodlea composita*, *Caulerpa racemosa*, *Halimeda opuntia*, *Hormophysa triquetra*, *Sargassum polycystum*, and *Laurencia intricata*. Conversely, the distance between Pari Island and Tikus Island are far from each other with different environmental characteristics, types of island use, and levels of environmental stressor. There is only one same species of macroalgae found on both islands, namely *Amphiroa fragilissima*.

The distribution of macroalgae species in the Pari Island reef cluster appears to be correlated primarily with the substrate profile difference along the gradient of islands and is also affected by human disturbance. Each island has different substrate characteristics as a habitat for macroalgae growth. Different types of substrates and other environmental

factors can affect the growth and macroalgae population in the intertidal zones (Zhao et al., 2016; Juul-Pedersen et al., 2008). Different types of substrates affect the growth ability of macroalgae species; therefore, it impacts species diversity in the area (Handayani, 2017). Kongs Island has a mixture of substrates in the forming of sand, sandy mud, and gravel. Similar substrate types are also found in Burung Island and Tikus Island. Most of the macroalgae can grow on two different types of substrates. In coastal areas with sand and sandy mud substrate, Rhodophyta and Chlorophyta such as *Gracilaria* and *Halimeda* are common. Whereas on the coast with rocky substrate types, Phaeophyta, such as *Sargassum* and *Turbinaria* are often found (Handayani, 2017). Conversely, significant differences were found in Pari Island where the island is an inhabited island the settlements concentrated in the southern. This island has dynamic environmental conditions due to settlements, tourist activities, and jetties, which

**Table 3.** Bray-Curtis Similarity Index for marine macroalgae of study area

Island	Kongs	Burung	Pari	Tikus
Kongs				
Burung	29.26			
Pari	15.79	0		
Tikus	26.67	20	11.76	

cause pressure on the presence of macroalgae on the island. Intensive human activities in coastal zones could be resulting in massive-scale changes in the abundance and distribution of species (Kim et al., 2010; Worm and Chapman A.R., 1996). Even more, the number of macroalgae species in natural distribution relatively low. Macroalgae are known to be vulnerable to physical and chemical changes in the marine environment (Harley et al., 2012) and threat by various human activities, particularly in developing countries (Satheesh and Wesley, 2012).

### 3.3. Future Direction for Macroalgae Resources Management

The high diversity of macroalgae in Pari Island reef cluster especially on Kongs Island is essential to conserve. On the other hand, the Pari Island cluster is also one of the favorite tourist destinations in the Thousand Islands, as a result the pressure on the existence of marine life on the island is relatively high. Therefore, it requires more severe efforts to protect the existence of macroalgae resources. Macroalgae have an important ecological role as primary producers, provide food for herbivorous groups and support the lives of other related organisms (Mejia et al., 2012). Macroalgae are substantial species occupiers of rocky shores and interact with other organisms and hence play a key role in overall coastal biodiversity (Sanghvi et al., 2019). In addition, macroalgae provide physical protection to coastal areas and useful indicators of coastal water quality (Pereira and Neto, 2015). Because of their critical ecological roles, macroalgae require special attention by authorities to ensure an appropriate conservation strategy. Zoning systems for the conservation of macroalgae communities and other biological resources should be established to reduce the potential damage of coastal biodiversity (Zhao et al., 2016). The effort of scientific research needs to be continued to identify that macroalgae species that of high economic value. In addition, the understanding of macroalgae resource contribution to humans and coastal ecosystems should be socialized intensively to communities and tourists to encourage local awareness. Further study on the ecological aspect of macroalgae and other biological marine resources is essential not only for better management of marine ecosystems but also provides useful information for marine macroalgae conservation strategies in the Pari Island reef cluster.

## 4. Conclusions

The number of macroalgae species found on Kongs Island, Tikus Island, Burung Island and Pari Island were 41 species of marine macroalgae where the largest macroalgae population is on Kongs Island, then Tikus Island, Burung Island and the least is Pari Island. Rhodophyta Division is the division that dominates the four islands, then Chlorophyta and finally Phaeophyta. The distribution of macroalgae in the four islands that was observed was different, this was most likely caused by differences in environmental conditions and the presence of different environmental pressures. Proper management of macroalgae resources is needed to maintain the presence of macroalgae in the Pari Island cluster.

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